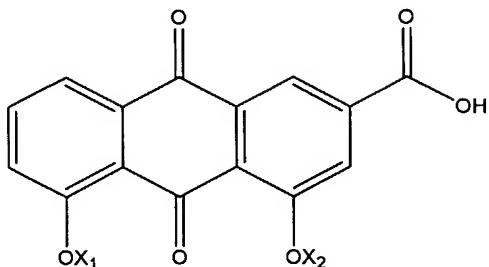


Claims

1. A compound of general formula (I):



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(I)

wherein X_1 is H or COR_1 and X_2 is H or COR_2 but X_1 and X_2 are not both H;
 R_1 and R_2 are the same or different and are each C_{1-4} alkyl substituted with
 R_3 , or a four to seven-membered ring which can be optionally substituted with R_8
10 and can contain one or more additional heteroatoms selected from O, $S(O)_n$ and
 NR_9 ;

R_3 is F, CF_3 , OR_4 , NR_5R_6 or $S(O)_nR_7$;
 R_4 , R_5 and R_6 are the same or different and are each H or C_{1-4} alkyl optionally
substituted with R_3 , or NR_5R_6 is a C_{4-6} heterocycloalkyl ring containing one or more
15 heteroatoms selected from O, NR_8 and $S(O)_n$;
each n is 0-2;
 R_7 is C_{1-4} alkyl;
 R_8 is as defined for R_3 or C_{1-4} alkyl optionally substituted with R_3 or halogen;
and
20 R_9 is H or C_{1-4} alkyl;
or a salt, solvate or hydrate thereof.

2. A compound of claim 1, wherein X_1 is COR_1 and X_2 is COR_2 .
3. A compound of claim 1, wherein X_1 is H and X_2 is COR_2 .
4. A compound of claim 1, wherein X_1 is COR_1 and X_2 is H.
- 25 5. A compound of any preceding claim, wherein R_3 is CF_3 , OR_4 , NR_5R_6 or
 $S(O)_nR_7$.
6. A compound of claim 1, which is
4,5-Bis(tetrahydropyran-4-carbonloxy)-9,10-dioxo-dihydroanthracene-2-
carboxylic acid.

7. A compound of claim 1, which is;
4,5-bisbutyryloxy-9,10-dioxo-9,10-dihydroanthracene-2-carboxylic acid;
4,5-bis(2-benzyloxyacetyl)oxy-9,10-dioxo-9,10-dihydroanthracene-2-carboxylic acid;
5 4,5-bis(4-methoxybutyryloxy)-9,10-dioxo-9,10-dihydroanthracene-2-carboxylic acid ; or
4,5-bis(tetrahydrofuran-3-carbonyloxy)-9,10-dioxo-9,10-dihydroanthracene-2-carboxylic acid.
8. A pharmaceutical composition for use in therapy, comprising a compound of
10 any of claims 1 to 7 and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.
9. Use of a compound of any of claims 1 to 7, for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of a condition associated with T-cell proliferation or that is mediated by pro-inflammatory cytokines.
10. Use according to claim 9, wherein the condition is a chronic degenerative
15 disease such as rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis or osteoporosis.
11. Use according to claim 9, wherein the condition is a chronic demyelinating disease such as multiple sclerosis.
12. Use according to claim 9, wherein the condition is a respiratory disease such as asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).
- 20 13. Use according to claim 9, wherein the condition is an inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) such as ulcerative colitis or Crohn's disease.
14. Use according to claim 9, wherein the condition is a dermatological condition such as psoriasis, scleroderma or atopic dermatitis.
15. Use according to claim 9, wherein the condition is a dental disease such as
25 periodontal disease or gingivitis.
16. Use according to claim 9, wherein the condition is diabetic nephropathy, lupus nephritis, IgA nephropathy or glomerulonephritis.
17. Use according to claim 9, wherein the condition is systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE).
- 30 18. Use according to claim 9, wherein the condition is graft vs host disease.